

EUGENE
WEEKLY



WILD HORSES

HEADING EAST IN SEARCH OF A WESTERN ICON *page 10*

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letters

THANKS FOR REMEMBERING MARIA

Rarely do I send letters of gratitude to the editor. Here's an exception: the commentary by Tom Coffin ("Remembering Maria," *EW* 5/6) deserves my warmest thanks to both the *Weekly* and the author. As a former schoolteacher in Los Angeles with thousands of Latino students coming through the classroom over decades, many first generation immigrants, and as an admirer of the cultural wealth of the ancient civilizations south of the border, I was deeply touched by the humanity in Coffin's recollection of Maria's tragic killing.

Having traveled through San Ysidro on multiple occasions, having also been stopped at random border patrol checkpoints near the border in the vicinity of Yuma, Arizona, I know first hand the brutally cold attitude of the officials patrolling this "death zone" where even those wearing the badge and the uniform are a potential threat to safety and well being. The type of assault described in Coffin's eloquent account might be much more than a rare isolated horror story. Case in point, read Jacob Soboroff's *Separated: Inside an American Tragedy* for further insight into the human rights situation at the border.

MaRco Elliott
Eugene

COFFIN NAILED IT

Thank you, Tom Coffin for revealing the insightful and horrific information contained in your Viewpoint essays ("Remembering Maria," 5/6, and "Truth is the Only Currency," 4/29). We need to have this information, since only by knowing can we figure out how to deal with it.

I will remember Maria, and it breaks my heart to know what happened to her. The information on guns and the Constitution was solid and helpful. Please keep sharing your knowledge and experiences. You have precious wisdom that many of us don't have and should have.

Thank you, *Eugene Weekly* for publishing these and so many other horrors we need to fix.

Jean Denis
Eugene

EW WAS RIGHT ON NEWMAN

Eugene Weekly got it right endorsing Judy Newman (4/29) for the Eugene School Board. I served on the board for 18 years, and I know the importance of bringing a calm, balanced voice like Newman's when making decisions. Newman has built strong relationships in our community and is an effective advocate for our students. That's why I support Newman.

The most important responsibility of the board is to make sure that students are front and center, especially those that often get left out. Newman does that. She is a life-long educator. She founded EC Cares, a public education organization in Eugene that has served

over 25,000 children with disabilities since 1991. She has led efforts that have brought millions of dollars in school funding to Eugene.

As the *Weekly* stated, "Newman's careful and independent thinking earned her the ... endorsement." Eugene students need Newman.

Beth Gerot
Eugene

DI LIBERTO HAS BEEN ON THE FRONT LINES

I am writing to express my support for Tom Di Liberto for 4J School Board. I have co-owned a retail business in downtown Eugene since 1975. My daughter attended public schools in south Eugene. I have volunteered in area schools and in community music and theater programs, and I have witnessed first-hand the incremental impact of funding reductions on our public institutions and our local students, teachers and school administrators since 1990.

As a 36-year veteran classroom teacher, Di Liberto has been on the front lines. He understands the issues teachers and students face today and how district policy can improve or disable classroom success. He has met the growing needs of students squeezed into increasingly crowded classrooms, with fewer supplies, reduced support staff and opportunities, and the growing emphasis on standardized testing. I am happy to see that issues brought forth in Di Liberto's campaign have inspired fellow candidates and community leaders to begin new conversations about best practice in education. I also know that Di Liberto is not just talking about these issues. He is passionate about his educational goals and will work with dedication and diligence to enact change and improve the educational experience and outcomes for all of our students.

Linda Ellis
Eugene

VOTE STEVE MITAL FOR LCC BOARD ZONE 5

I served with Steve Mital as an EWEB commissioner for four years and found his approach to be level headed and community minded. He doesn't shy away from hard questions and has created innovative programs and partnerships that have made a major difference in the lives of community members. He values quality, but also recognizes and advocates for affordability. He guided the utility to revamp programs to be more effective with lower cost. I have no doubt that Steve would bring that same passion and vigor to the Lane Community College Board.

He is personable to work with and has a good sense of humor, making the most wonky conversations inviting and engaging. I hope you'll join me in voting for Mital for LCC Board Zone 5

Sonya Carlson
Eugene

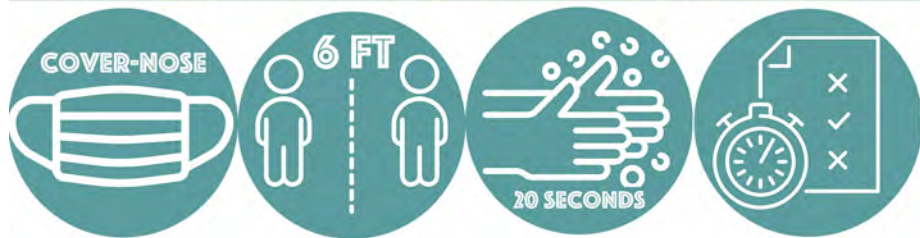
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DEFUND THE MILITARY

The summer of 2020, an extremely hot, dry one, was precipitated by decades of drought caused by rising world temperatures. The result was massive, sobering destruction in rural Oregon and our beautiful forests. And what might be the world's largest emitter of CO2 and therefore the largest driver of climate change? The U.S. military.

Though firefighters worked bravely to put out fires, a bloated military budget funneled off tax money that could have been better spent to hire more firefighters.

Federal and state funds to help people rebuild or relocate are stretched thin. Wouldn't funds to help all people have a home be a better use of our tax dollars than more funds to the military?

Due to the climate catastrophe we again did not get enough rain and snow this winter, and so far this spring we have had very little rain. I worry when fire season will start this year and how much more of Oregon will be destroyed. I have been a war tax resister since the 1970s since I do not want my money supporting murder. The money I resist to the military I give to local groups that actually help people and the environment. Now I am also a war tax resister because

I don't want my money supporting the biggest contributor to the burning of our planet: the U.S. military.

Sue Barnhart
Eugene

ASK THE HOMELESS WHAT THEY NEED

Ten years ago I was homeless in Corvallis. Slowly I changed my life and am in stable housing and living a life I could not have imagined.

My philosophy is: Imagine you are in a boat (we are all in the same boat). I set a direction. And I decide to move the steering wheel 4 degrees either right or left. I stick with it long enough and I will end up somewhere else.

People have a lot of compassion for the homeless. It has been my experience that people have given me what they think I need, not actually what I do need.

Ask a homeless person what is one small thing he can do to change his life 4 degrees? Ask yourself what small thing you can do to help and support him. When you see him again ask him again what you can do to help and support him.

From my experience, getting housing right then would not have been helpful. There were numerous things I needed

to do before I was in the right place to be ready for housing. I had numerous obstacles to overcome.

I was able to take small steps. I had a lot of support from the community, and Corvallis had the resources I needed.

I have a lot of gratitude for all I have been given.

I do not want to draw the wrong conclusion, Corvallis has its own homeless problem. Many resources back then are not available now, nor were there so many homeless. I do not want to give anyone the impression that Corvallis has greener grass. We are as stretched as far as Eugene in our ability to get the homeless off the streets.

Beth Kiester
Corvallis

STOP RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT

When you look at the east side of the Willamette River compared to the west side you see very different landscapes. The east side is developed with malls, three-story apartments and private access developments. Fertilized grass grows close to the river's edge near the apartments. It's tamed and citified.

The west side has a few rural proper-

ties, maple and white oak trees, a native prairie restoration area and habitat for raptors and ducks. It has a wilder feel that provides for a relatively quiet experience just a short distance from the hubbub of River Road.

Several brave neighbors challenged Evergreen Housing's proposal to build a three-story, 93-unit apartment building on the west side. The Home Building Industry Association's lawyer succeeded in pointing out that the Greenway Permit will allow whatever type of housing the land is zoned for because there are no "clear and measurable standards" that the permit can be defined by. And if this continues, the west side will eventually look just like the east side. It's the wild part of our natures that will pay the price of this conversion, not to mention the birds and animals. The Home Builder Industry Association will continue to win unless the Greenway permit gets some real definition. We need to establish clear criteria to preserve the character of the west side Greenway. Please oppose Evergreen Housing's out of state market rate, unaffordable housing development. There may be a chance to change course if we act now.

Juliet Thompson
Eugene

VIEWPOINT BY PAM DRISCOLL AND ROBERT EMMONS

McKenzie Recovery

THE MCKENZIE AND ITS BANKS CAN BE RESTORED
IN HARMONY WITH THE RIVER'S NEEDS

Rebuilding along the McKenzie River after the Holiday Farm Fire provides an opportunity to promote, establish and enforce measures that will protect and enhance the McKenzie and its riparian zones. Before the fire, houses in much of the burn corridor encroached on the river, altering its native ecosystem by outright removal of riparian vegetation and replacement with tiled patios, lawns and English ivy.

In response to questions about the county's role, Land County Planning Supervisor Keir Miller offered the following: "As we work with landowners [who live] along the McKenzie, we are encouraging them to relocate further away from the river. Staff has also been working with EWEB to permit a subsidy program to incentivize folks to move back from the river. I know MRT [McKenzie River Trust], MWC [McKenzie Watershed Council] and others are also working on programs to support native replanting. As far as code enforcement goes, we will investigate violations as they arise, and we will also be developing an app for river guides and others to report violations on their phones in real time..."

Research by David Pillrod, an ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, shows that the loss of riparian vegetation can lead to higher water temperatures, increased erosion and sedimentation, which negatively affect amphibian and insect larvae for several years and up to decades after a high severity fire like the Holiday Farm Fire.

Scientific studies have shown that the climate crisis has stressed fish that depend on cold water, such as

our native salmon, further threatening their survival. Restoring the McKenzie River, the source of Eugene's drinking water, and making sure the rebuilding efforts do not harm — and actually improve — the riparian areas and waterways are key if we want the river and the life it holds to survive and become more resilient. Debris, toxic ash and sediment from the fire and from rebuilding materials and activities can impact the water quality for drinking, fish and other wildlife. Many miles of the river have suffered from harmful algae blooms, induced by encroachment and runoffs of toxic materials, long before the fire added to the harm.

EWEB's Pure Water Partners program is a group of organizations, including the McKenzie Watershed Council, McKenzie River Trust, Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development, Metropolitan Waste Management, Soil and Water Conservation District, U.S. Forest Service and others, that "support and reward McKenzie landowners who protect high quality land along the river." Owners may contact EWEB for an assessment of their property and proposed erosion control and replanting with native vegetation.

EWEB's water quality supervisor, Karl Morgenstern, says the utility is working with almost 300 landowners impacted by the fire. And the Bonneville Environmental Foundation has provided thousands of native plants for the restoration effort. To help pay for the recovery EWEB has assessed a residential and commercial Watershed Recovery Fee based on meter size, effective mid-2021.

Helping to ground the Holiday Farm recovery project, Northwest Youth Corps has been essential in the aftermath cleanup and in constructing measures to control the

erosion of toxic sediments. The corps is a nonprofit modeled on the Conservation Civilian Corps that, its Executive Director Jeff Parker says, offers teens an opportunity to "learn, grow and experience success" while assisting in fire recovery, trail building and other hands-on projects.

Instead of using commercial wattles — long tubular sediment catchers stretched along the riverbank — made from plastic netting and non-native plants, Youth Corps workers have constructed ones made of jute and native willow twigs and branches, and installed them. They have also set up sediment fences and have been reseeding burned areas with native species.

In the process Kris Stenshoel, an EWEB environmental specialist, has tutored these young workers, who are already, she says, "environmentally conscious and education driven," about the function and importance of native plants and riparian and watershed ecosystems.

Most would agree they want a healthy river that supports wildlife and provides clean drinking water, but many don't understand the role riparian areas with native trees, shrubs and ground cover play in a river's health. Educating people who live along the river about how to be a partner in a healthy restoration effort is essential, especially as hotter and drier springs and summers increase wildfire intensity and frequency and threaten farms, forests and wildlife.

The good news is there are tools, organizations and funding that can help restore the McKenzie and its banks in harmony with the river's needs. Landowners and other interested parties can take advantage of that windfall, begin to heal the McKenzie River and get people back in their homes built back better. ■

Pam Driscoll is a LandWatch Board member and long-time social and environmental activist and produces a radio show entitled, 'Come Together Oregon' on KEPW.org 97.3FM. Robert Emmons is president of LandWatch Lane County, a nonprofit that has worked for 25 years with neighbors to protect farms, forests, natural areas and open space.

Fifty Years Ago

THE VIETNAM ANTI-WAR MOVEMENT IN EUGENE

EUGENE USED TO BE SO COOL

Dear Eugene: Let me see if I understand this. You hold an Abolish the Police rally while the city of Eugene is charging anyone whose employer has a Eugene address a hefty tax for public safety. I live in Lowell, where we have no police and a County Sheriff's Officer to cover all of Lane County.

All of us who live outside of Eugene have to pay this tax. The reasoning was that if we were at our jobs in Eugene we would benefit from the extra police protection. I have been working remotely for over a year (as have many others, due to the pandemic).

I'm not in Eugene. Why do I have to pay this tax? Good question. The city council won't answer, the mayor won't answer, the governor's office won't answer. The tax is over six times what the LTD transit tax is. This wasn't voted on by anyone except the city council. Where is this money actually going? I think that if Eugene citizens want more Eugene police, let them pay for it. Instead, you hold rallies to abolish the police. I don't and won't shop in Eugene anymore. You used to be cool, Eugene, but you've gotten a little too full of yourself.

Tasha Drake
Lowell

SLOW DOWN, DRIVERS

An open letter to all drivers who speed on Washington Street from 18th Avenue to 13th Avenue.

This is a residential area, and as such the speed limit is 25 mph, soon to be reduced to 20 mph when the city has money for new signage. The same rules apply from 13th Avenue to 18th Avenue along Washington Street because drivers choose to exceed safe and legal speed limits. I hesitate to ask the city to provide traffic control bumps for 20 mph every 300 feet for the entire five blocks.

I have filed a complaint with city officials without visible results. Next stop is the police department.

I appeal to all drivers to obey the speed limit and please consider that there are small children and pets in this quiet neighborhood.

I sincerely hope that my input will be recognized, but in all probability, drivers will continue their behavior,

Please, everyone consider others and please slow down.

Marlin Stone
Eugene

The last national protests against the Vietnam War occurred 50 years ago, in late April 1971: 500,000 demonstrators gathered in Washington, D.C., and 200,000 in San Francisco to demand immediate and unconditional withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam.

That same week, 800 members of Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) threw their military medals onto the Capitol building steps to demonstrate their opposition to the war.

On May 3, D.C. police jailed nearly 12,000 anti-war demonstrators for sitting down in the streets in an attempt to disrupt the federal government.

Simultaneously, hundreds of "Out Now" anti-war demonstrations were organized across the country.

At the time, the three of us were students at the University of Oregon. We were part of the Spring Action Coordinating Committee, a coalition of students, faculty, clergy, veterans and community leaders who organized a week of May Day protest actions.

On May 1, 1971, 2,000 anti-war opponents rallied peacefully in downtown Eugene. On May 5, several hundred protestors marched on the campus ROTC (officer training) building and then continued downtown to block entrances and close down the Selective Service, Army recruiting and IRS offices.

That week, the university faculty voted for a complete withdrawal of American troops by Dec. 31. In late May, 58 percent of Eugene voters approved a ballot referendum demanding the troops' withdrawal by year's end.

Most student activists (including ourselves) had turned against the Vietnam War years earlier. We had organized a range of predominantly nonviolent protests: draft resistance, educational teach-ins, marches, vigils and civil disobedience; a student strike (in May 1970 after the Cambodia invasion); assistance to soldiers who deserted and fled to Canada after being ordered to Vietnam; and in 1968 support for anti-war Presidential candidates Democratic Senators Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy, as well as incumbent Oregon Senators Wayne Morse and Mark Hatfield. Both were outspoken critics of the war.

Half a century later, how shall we evaluate the anti-Vietnam War movement?

According to historian Christian Appy's recent book *American Reckoning: The Vietnam War and Our National Identity*, the movement helped to shape public opinion and move opposition to the war from the political margins to the mainstream. A 1965 Gallup Poll found that only 24 percent of Americans believed our military intervention was mistaken. By 1971, 61 percent of Americans polled favored withdrawal by the end of the year.

Anti-war criticism of American intervention, eventually discredited the 'Cold War' anti-communist ideology used to justify American involvement. The movement shattered America's myth as a "shining city on the hill" and a universal force for good — "chosen by God" to export our political-economic system to less-developed nations.

African American civil rights leaders Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X stressed that American intervention was driven by anti-Asian racism, deeply embedded in nineteenth-century "yellow peril" stereotypes.

The anti-war movement and television news coverage exposed pervasive U.S. military atrocities and human rights violations, such as the 1968 My Lai massacre of hundreds of unarmed women, children and elderly men. According to University of Washington and Harvard Medical School researchers, "carpet bombing" (that included the toxic defoliant Agent Orange) and "search and destroy" missions in South Vietnam's countryside caused an estimated 2 million civilian deaths.

By the early 1970s, the anti-war movement converged with active-duty soldier protests both in Vietnam and stateside. Morale plummeted, desertions skyrocketed, entire platoons refused to engage the enemy in combat. "Fragging" — attacks against gung-ho officers — increased dramatically. At home, thousands of active-duty GIs and veterans joined anti-war marches, and troops avidly read underground anti-war newspapers edited by soldiers.

Eventually, Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird warned that the soldiers' revolt could approach "crisis proportions" if the troops were not immediately withdrawn.

According to Appy and other historians, the anti-war movement did not end the war, but surging negative public opinion pressured President Lyndon Johnson to stop the bombing and begin negotiations in 1968. It then compelled President Richard Nixon to seek a cease-fire and negotiated settlement in 1972 — much earlier than he otherwise would have.

The historical evidence suggests that the anti-war movement restrained policymakers and thwarted major escalations. In 1968 President Johnson denied the military's request to increase American troop levels from 536,000 to 736,000. In 1969 and 1972, President Nixon considered using nuclear weapons against North Vietnam but ultimately pulled back.

Pushed by anti-war public opinion and the GI rebellion, bipartisan Senate and House majorities in 1972 threatened to cut off funding for the war. By March 1973, Nixon was forced to sign a peace agreement, halt the bombing of North Vietnam and withdraw all American combat troops.

Co-author and disillusioned Rand corporation researcher Daniel Ellsberg leaked the Pentagon Papers, a secret Defense Department report on the war, to U.S. newspapers. The study, first published by the New York Times in June 1971, disclosed that both Democratic and Republican administrations had systematically lied about the war and attempted to suppress the growth of anti-war public opinion. By 1972, a record 65 percent polled said the war was "morally wrong."

In the 1960s, young people provided leadership of the anti-war, civil rights and women's movements to curb American intervention in Vietnam and make America a more just and equitable society. Today, once again, with the explosion of mass movements such as Black Lives Matter, Climate justice, gun control, Fight for \$15 and LGBTQ rights, youth lead the way.

We should not forget the enduring legacy of the Vietnam anti-war movement and how organized citizens influenced public opinion, checked the power of the imperial presidency and played a major role in ending the war. ■

Dennis Gilbert is instructor of physics at Lane Community College. Martin Bennett is instructor emeritus of American history at Santa Rosa Junior College in Sonoma County, California. Paul Gratz is a retired public health educator in Santa Cruz County, California.

hear ye, hear ye !!





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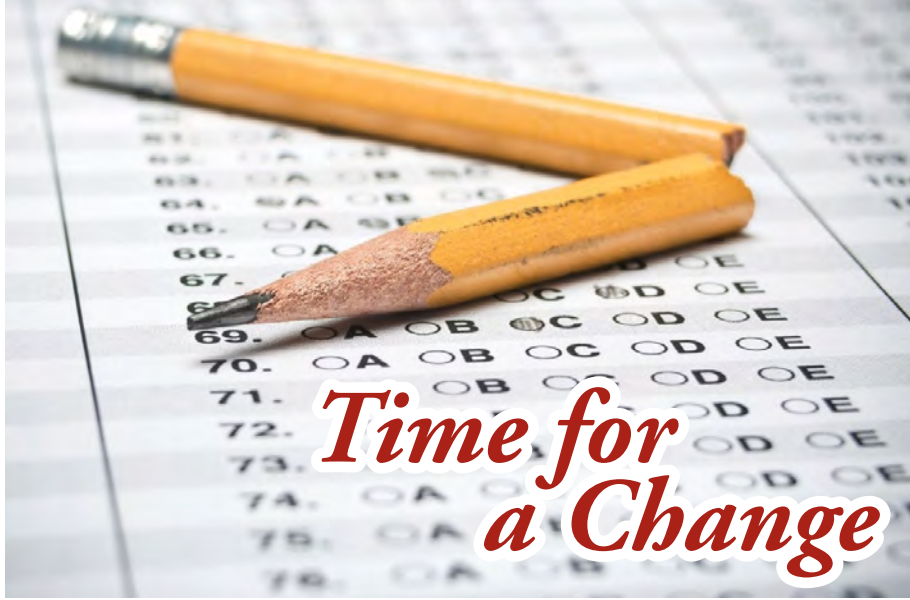
Tom taught **31 years in District 4J.**
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Flattening a Forest

RETIRED FORESTRY PROFESSORS, AN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP AND A LAWMAKER SPEAK OUT ON A PROPOSED LOGGING OF MATURE FORESTLAND

By Henry Houston

During a recent trip to the McKenzie River area, Congressman Peter DeFazio tells *Eugene Weekly* that he's seen more logging trucks in that one day than he'd normally see in a year.

But logging trucks could soon haul away more than the controversial Holiday Farm Fire-related salvage timber. The U.S. Forest Service is proposing forest management actions scattered across a project area of 74,091 acres near McKenzie Bridge, according to sale documents. Called the Flat Country Project, the project in the Willamette National Forest concerns opponents who say the agency would be logging mature forests, affecting diverse ecosystems and affecting a space that could be a part of capturing carbon emissions.

"Going into a 100-, 120-year-old forest at this point in time is nuts," DeFazio says of the sale. "I don't know what they're going to do with all this timber."

According to USFS documents, within the boundaries of the 74,091-acre project, the agency is proposing forest management actions on 5,001 acres. This includes 4,039 acres of forest thinning, 767 of which are on riparian reserves, and 962 acres of regeneration harvests. The project will harvest trees that range in age from 27 to 150 years old.

The proposed logging sale dates back to 2018, and on Jan. 21, 2021, the agency moved forward with the process when it signed its Record of Decision. The sale has four purposes, the USFS says. One is to provide a sustainable supply of timber — about 100 million board feet over five years. The second is to increase the space between trees, which the USFS says are too densely spaced. The third would increase habitat complexity. The fourth is to manage the road system.

Jerry Franklin and Norm Johnson, professors emeritus at University of Washington and Oregon State University, respectively, don't agree with USFS's justifications for the logging. Both were involved in developing the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan, which was designed to balance logging while protecting the spotted owl and other species, Johnson tells *EW*.

In regard to the USFS's claim on tree density, Franklin says this forest isn't dense at all but is doing what trees do at a mature stage. The federal agency is applying principles used in managing plantations in declaring that it's too dense, and that isn't relevant to a natural forest, he says.

Both Johnson and Franklin say if the sale goes through, it would set a dangerous precedent for future logging projects in mature forests. "These old-growth forests are relatively rare in western Oregon," Johnson says. "They're important for a variety of species and for people, too."

Forests like those found in the Willamette National Forest are optimal for snow capture and retention in the spring, Franklin says. They help produce high quality water and they are effective at regulating water to minimize floods. The USFS is proposing to replace some mature trees with a plantation, he says, which doesn't provide any of those benefits and actually consumes a lot of water.

DeFazio tells *EW* that he's a disciple of Franklin and Johnson. "I agree with what they said. I've proposed to the Forest Service and the BLM different ways of doing forestry, following their prescriptions," he adds.

In a May 7 letter to USFS Chief Vicki Christiansen obtained by *EW*, DeFazio writes that in a recent trip up the McKenzie Highway, he passed nearly 40 logging trucks. "There is so much salvage harvest and roadside hazard tree removal occurring that some local mills have

stopped taking logs," he says. "In this context, I find it incomprehensible that the United States Forest Service would proceed with the Flat Country Timber Sale to harvest 2,000 acres of mature trees upwards of 100 to 150 years in age."

He adds in the letter that he sees no reason why the agency should proceed with "clearcutting 200 acres of rare mature forest."

DeFazio tells *EW* that he doesn't know if the USFS chief will change her mind, but since she is from the Pacific Northwest, maybe she'll understand how important the mature forests are.

The Eugene-based nonprofit Cascadia Wildlands agrees that the logging is unnecessary. Conservation Director Bethany Cotton says the group commends DeFazio for speaking out against the Flat Country sale.

"We call on elected leaders at every level to review the science on forest carbon, step forward to protect our forests, and in so doing safeguard our drinking water sources, iconic rivers and watersheds, wildlife habitat and climate," she says. "Pacific Northwest forests are an essential bulwark of climate resilience — but only if they remain standing."

Johnson says the Flat Country sale is the largest project the USFS has put together in 20 years, adding "all we can do is ring the fire bell in the night and say, 'Hey, what a minute here, what is going on?'"

The Willamette National Forest near McKenzie River is one of the last reservoirs of trees, he says, adding that they can't be replaced. "This is the motherlode of carbon storage," Johnson says. "It just stands out on a global map. If we're serious about combating climate change, you'd start with these forests and keeping them." ■

For the link to research by Franklin and Johnson on Flat Country, visit this story online at [EugeneWeekly.com](https://eugeneweekly.com).

slant

• The **University of Oregon** announced on **May 10** that all students, faculty and staff will be

required to take the COVID-19 vaccination — with the usual medical and non-medical exceptions — in order to attend and/or work on campus. The UO's decision came days after other Oregon institutions and weeks after the nation's largest higher education system (the California State University and University of California) made COVID-19 vaccines mandatory for the upcoming school year. But, hey, the UO's announcement is better late than absent.

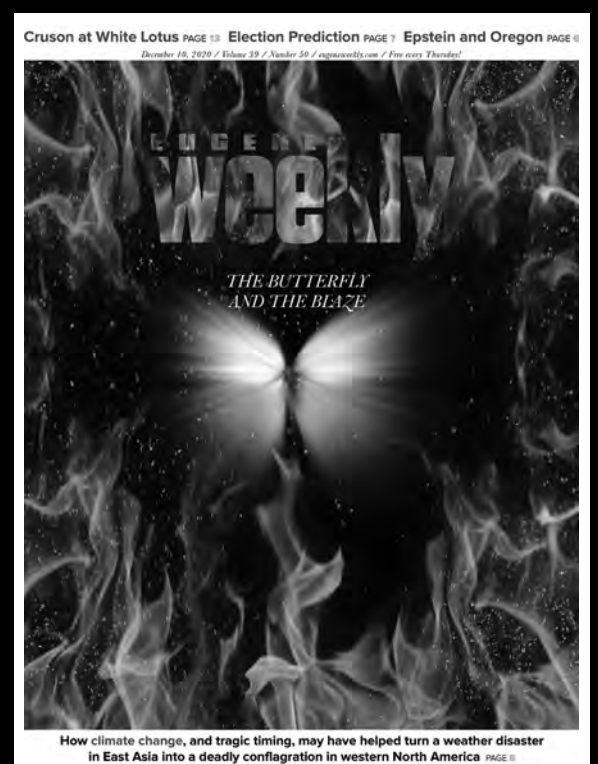
• On Sunday night, **several Eugene City Councilors' homes, including Emily Semple, Claire Syrett and Alan Zelekna, were vandalized with spray-painted anti-police slogans.** Semple told *Eugene Weekly* that "defund EPD" and "fund CAHOOTS" were written on the side of her house with a banner that said "Your community is watching you." Her stairs and mailbox were also spray-painted. She says the tactic was not effective. "If you want me to vote one way come and talk to me," Semple says. "I don't feel particularly intimidated."

• Last week's Slant column annoyed a reader who left a **profanity filled voicemail with misinformation**

about COVID vaccines (or as he called them, "Nazi-vaccines") and threatening to come "put a foot up your ass." Thank you, sir, but we will continue to endorse science over conspiracies and threats.

• *Eugene Weekly* took 2020 off from our **annual Summer Guide issue** due to COVID. We're bringing it back, COVID-safe, for 2021, so if you have a summer event that's fun or informative and is not going to be a super-spreader, submit it ASAP to our online calendar at Calendar.EugeneWeekly.com/Cal or Cal@EugeneWeekly.com.

• **"The Butterfly and the Blaze," which ran in Eugene Weekly Dec. 10, 2020, took first place for science writing for 2020 from the American Society of Journalists and Authors,** the largest professional organization of independent nonfiction writers in the U.S. The story by Matthew LaPlante and Jacob Stuienvolt Allen detailed butterfly effect connections between typhoons in the western Pacific and last summer's devastating fires in Oregon. "This story is so skillfully put together, with a compelling narrative that conveys a complicated scientific topic that has significant implications as we move deeper into the climate crisis," the judges wrote. We happily agree.



The Feral Cat Problem

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS, LOCAL NONPROFITS WORK TO SPAY, NEUTER AND RELEASE CATS

By Cole Sinanian

On a hot summer day in 2016, Shane Popoff was cruising along one of his favorite bike trails on the outskirts of east Eugene when he noticed a pair of small, beady eyes curiously watching him.

He was being followed by a gray house cat. While she looked healthy, her kittens appeared to be severely malnourished. Fearing for their survival, Popoff returned the following day with a bag of dry cat food and divided it evenly among the ravenous felines.

But this time he noticed that “Mama Cat,” — as he’d affectionately named her — had some friends. Tabby, black, calico, gray — the landscape was dotted with cats of all shapes and colors, though most of them shared a frail build and insatiable appetite.

Popoff went home to stock up on cat food and returned once again, determined to leave no cat hungry. This quickly became a routine; he’d carry the food with him on his rides and dole it out generously to any cat who crossed his path.

But before long the population began to explode, and feeding them became an increasingly daunting task.

“It only takes a few before they start breeding, and they multiply pretty quickly,” Popoff says. “That was when I decided to do something about the population boom.”

It was at this point, he says, that he contacted the Greenhill Humane Society.

Greenhill is the only full-service animal shelter in the Eugene-Springfield area, and is under contract as the public animal shelter for Eugene, Springfield and Lane County. In addition to adoption services, the organization offers a spay-neuter clinic for homeless community cats through a program called TNR, which stands for Trap Neuter Return.

According to Greenhill’s Events and Community Engagement Manager Megan Brezovar, caretakers like Popoff are integral to controlling the city’s feral cat numbers. They feed and monitor the populations of Lane County’s feral cat colonies and set up spay-neuter appointments with Greenhill for the cats that they care for.

“These people do not work for us,” Brezovar says. “They’re just people in our community. There’s a lot of wonderful humans out there that want to care for these cats,” she says.

After making an appointment, caretakers pick up a humane cat trap from Greenhill and return the following day with the cat in tow, she says. The cats undergo surgery and receive rabies vaccinations, flea medication and antibiotics for any infections they may have.

They stay at Greenhill for a few days while they recover from surgery, then the caretakers return them to their colonies. Greenhill veterinarians also remove a tip from one of the cats’ ears — a well-known sign indicating they’ve been spayed or neutered, Brezovar says.

While Popoff now has some volunteers helping him care for the colony, the work can still be demanding. He estimates that the colony contains a total of 40 to 45 cats, though the numbers constantly fluctuate. He’s helped spay or neuter more than 30 of them and found permanent homes for 14. In the five years he’s been caring for the colony, Popoff has adopted four of the kittens himself.

He says that the colony is mostly made up of feral cats, with a handful of strays mixed in. Feral cats are born on the streets and are not accustomed to human contact, whereas strays are pets who have been lost or



abandoned, according to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

Adult feral cats are afraid of humans and are usually unfit for adoption, Brezovar says. However, if feral kittens are socialized young enough, they can be adopted just like any other stray.

“There’s about an eight-week window where if they’re tolerant of you and you’re able to pet them, they’ll become really kind of attached to humans,” Popoff says. “Then you can just go ahead and take them home just like any other housecat.”

HSUS estimates that there are between 30 million and 40 million feral and stray cats in the U.S., 2 percent of which have been spayed or neutered. In contrast, 85 percent of the 75-80 million pet cats in the U.S. have been spayed or neutered, meaning that roughly 80 percent of all kittens born in the U.S. each year are born feral. There are approximately 40,000 stray and feral cats in Lane County, according to the Lane County government web site.

When people refuse to spay and neuter their outdoor pet cats, they are indirectly contributing to large-scale animal cruelty, Brezovar says, as cats born on the streets often face hard, short lives filled with fleas, violence and infections.

While there are a handful of different population-control methods, Brezovar says she believes that TNR is the most humane and effective approach. Extermination is ineffective and needlessly cruel, she says, while feeding bans are nearly impossible to enforce. Feral cat colonies live in a specific area because there is a reliable food source nearby, so eliminating one population would

only invite another to take its place.

“A lot of these animals are born due to human fault, from us being irresponsible,” Brezovar says. “To be honest, if everyone spayed and neutered their cats, there wouldn’t be a problem.”

Karen Kraus, executive director of the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon — a Portland-based nonprofit that also provides TNR services — says that the primary factor determining the number of stray and feral cats in a given area is human population.

“It’s directly related to the number of people around,” she says. “You’re going to see a higher density of cats with a higher density of people.”

However, Kraus says there are other factors at play as well, particularly in Eugene. She says that the large student population likely contributes to Lane County’s high numbers of homeless cats, with pets frequently getting lost or misplaced as students move into new homes each year.

Popoff, a Eugene native, believes that Lane County’s mild winter temperatures may also play a role, with the lack of frequent deep freezes allowing cats to thrive outdoors more easily than in other parts of the country, he says.

Kraus and Brezovar stress that the best thing people can do to help reduce the number of street cats is to get their pets spayed and neutered and to encourage their neighbors to do the same.

“Domestication says that we made you a promise — that we’re going to take care of you,” Kraus says. “And when we can’t, they suffer.” ■

For more information about Greenhill Humane Society’s TNR program, call 541-689-1503 or go to Green-Hill.org.

J.H. Baxter's New Suits

TWO LAWSUITS HAVE BEEN FILED AGAINST THE WOOD TREATMENT PLANT IN EUGENE

By Taylor Perse

For decades, families in west Eugene have shared concerns about J.H. Baxter ranging from the plant's pollution filling the air and causing health problems to contaminated waste water. Now some community members are taking legal action.

Two class action lawsuits were filed against the wood treatment plant on April 30 and May 7, both alleging negligence in the way the plant disposes of its chemical products and how that affects the surrounding neighborhoods. The lawsuits ask Baxter to remedy the situation and for financial compensation for the plaintiffs, who are residents in west Eugene near the plant.

The lawsuits follow a \$223,440 fine issued by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality on March 4. DEQ accused the company of misusing its wood treating chambers, called retorts, to treat over 1.7 million gallons of hazardous waste by evaporating it instead of correctly disposing of it. In a separate violation, DEQ also alleged Baxter allowed untreated stormwater to flow into Amazon Creek. The company has since appealed the fine.

Baxter declined to comment on the lawsuits.

"At this time we are not in a position to comment on pending litigation. We continue to look forward to working closely with all regulators and the community," Company President Georgia Baxter writes to *Eugene Weekly* in an email statement.

Miles Hart, a west Eugene resident and former J.H.

Baxter employee, was named as a plaintiff in the lawsuit filed on April 30. He says a lawyer contacted him about joining the suit after he filed a complaint with the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) on Dec. 25, 2020.

"I had lodged a complaint because Baxter was running its evaporator over Christmas," Hart tells *EW*. "It stinks so bad it burns my eyes and nose."

Hart says he worked for Baxter from 2013 to 2014 and alleges he was fired because he became more vocal about some of the illegal and unethical practices happening at the plant.

"Their chemicals pretty much poison the ground water in this part of town," Hart says. "They are a big nasty plant."

Hart's lawsuit claims that Baxter illegally disposed of some of its chemical byproducts and has failed to adequately manage the chemicals, leading to them being released into the water, soil and air. The lawsuit says that Baxter has knowingly failed to mitigate these effects, adding since 2019, 150 complaints have been made to LRAPA about the plant.

The plaintiffs are seeking compensation for economic damages and medical issues as well as acknowledgment of and righting the wrongs of the company's alleged negligence in handling chemicals. They are represented by Nicholas Kahl in Portland, and Laura Sheets, Steven Liddle and Lance Spitzig from a law firm in Michigan.

Lisa Arkin, executive director of Beyond Toxics, says that, for years, Beyond Toxics gathered data about the plant being a public health hazard, and it had been ignored.

"Finally, agencies are asking for this data and valuing this community generated data. It's very important because it is the lived experience," Arkin says.

Plaintiffs in the second class action complaint, filed on May 7, are represented by Derek Johnson and Leslie O'Leary in Eugene. This lawsuit also accuses Baxter of "intentional and unlawful process of disposing of its hazardous waste streams," and that the complaints to LRAPA from affected residents covers more than half the population of Eugene.

The plaintiffs ask for adequate staffing at Baxter so correct procedures will be followed, compensation of \$75,000 for property damages due to contaminated groundwater, \$100,000 in damages for those owning a home in that area, and nuisance damages of \$15,000 for each member in the case.

Hart's goal is for J.H. Baxter to step up. He acknowledges that the plant is a source of local employment, but says that it needs to change. He blames the city for allowing residential areas to be built so close to the industrial area without a boundary.

"Just clean it up," he says. "I don't care if they stay in business, or don't stay in business. Just clean it up." ■

Attorney Derek Johnson is the son of EW co-owners Art and Anita Johnson.

Endorsements at a Glance

EW's recommendations for the May 18 election

BY **EW EDITORIAL BOARD AND STAFF**

Lane Community College

Zone 1

Holli Johnson

Mark Boren

Thomas Jennings

Zone 5, 2 Year Unexpired Term

Steve Mital

Al King

Eugene School District #4J

Position 2

Laural O'Rourke

Harry Sanger

Position 3

Tom Di Liberto

Judy Newman

Bryan Costa

Position 6

Maya Rabasa

Dakota James Boulette (dropped out to support Rabasa)

Lane Education Service District

Position 6 At-Large

Rose Wilde

Rich Cunningham

Junction City School District #69

Position 1, 2 Year Unexpired Term

Alaire Fajardo

Kari Bennett

Ryan Ceniga

Position 6

Jacque Gerdes

Jesse C. Springer

Position 3

Steven Hadley

Brandy Crosby

Jonathan Light

Anthony Reed

Samantha Alcantar

Position 5

Kelly Mason

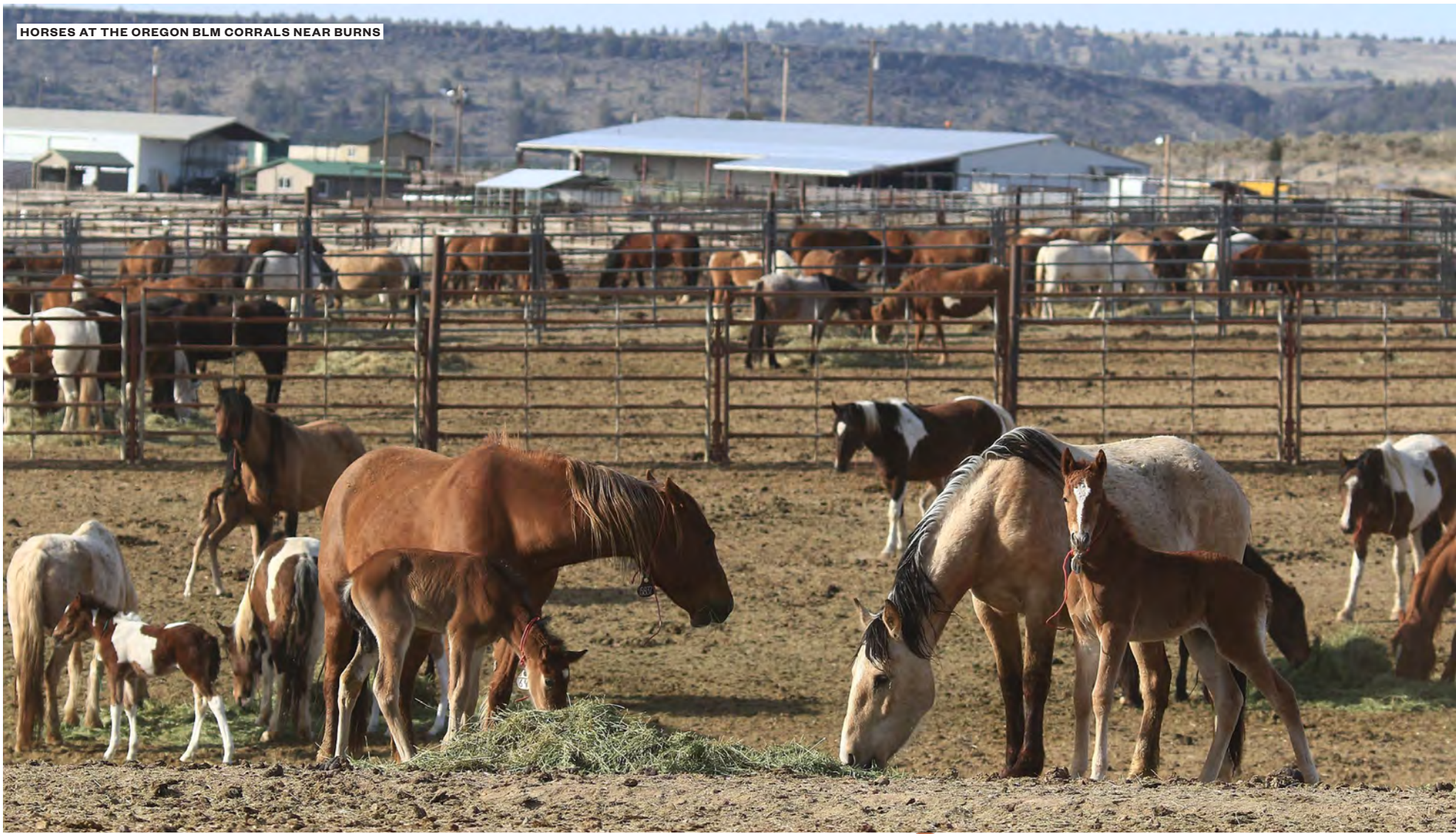
Ruth Linoz

Lisa Barrager (dropped out)

Measures

#20-319 - Lane County Yes

Supporting 4-H and
OSU Extension Programs
in Lane County



BORN TO BE WILD

EW HEADS TO REMOTE EASTERN OREGON TO FIND AND UNDERSTAND WILD HORSES Story by Taylor Perse / Photos by Bob Keefer

Their stillness makes them almost imperceptible. But I know they are out there, so I cup my hands around my eyes and squint into the late afternoon sunlight, scanning the high desert for any sign of movement.

Suddenly, they appear: Nearly a dozen wild mustangs grazing in scattered groups on the hillside. Linger beneath a partly cloudy sky, they look painted onto the landscape.

The air smells of dirt and sagebrush as I stand by my car parked on the side of Steens Mountain Loop Road, on the western flank of the mountain in southeast Oregon. Around me, the wilderness is silent except for a bevy of Western meadowlarks, who, perching on desert plants, tip their heads back and serenade anything passing by.

These horses are the South Steens mustangs, one of more than 17 herds that traverse Oregon's public lands. Oregon has more than 6,100 wild horses, according to estimates, just a small fraction of the nearly 95,000 that live throughout the Western states. Most live in Nevada.

Though revered by much of the public, wild horses across the West are also the subject of a 70-year controversy involving locals, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), activists and ranchers. This complicated dispute, intertwining passion and harsh realities, debates what it means to be wild, what it means to have a home and what it means to protect a horse.

To learn more about Oregon's wild horses, *Eugene Weekly* took a trip to the remote southeast corner of the state, trading Douglas-fir trees for the sparse high desert landscape some of these horses call home. The South Steens herd, like many other herds in Oregon, wandered through these lands ungoverned and unprotected for centuries until the BLM began managing them in 1971. The agency has been responsible for horses on BLM land ever since.

FROM PLAINS TO PENS

"You occasionally see one, and it's the thrill of a lifetime."

But mostly all you ever see is a cloud of dust after they are gone. It's their stubborn ability to survive that makes them so remarkable." — Velma "Wild Horse Annie" Johnston

Before the BLM managed wild horses, the mustangs were fair game for any rancher or cowboy who wanted to round up mustangs and slaughter them for commercial purposes. In the 1950s, Velma Johnston, a secretary from Nevada known as "Wild Horse Annie," became aware of how badly wild horses were treated and led a grassroots campaign against some of the worst abuses.

She recruited school students to help, and thousands of letters later, Congress responded by passing the 1959 Wild Horse Annie Act, which prohibited the use of motor vehicles to hunt wild horses on public lands, but did not further protect the horses.

"There was no protection for wild horses," says Rob Sharp, program supervisor at the Oregon BLM wild horse corrals a few miles west of Burns. "People were rounding them up. A lot of it was for slaughter purposes."

By 1971, the wild horse population on public lands declined because of the continued permitted gathering and slaughtering of horses. In response to public protest, Congress passed the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, which gives the management and protection of wild horses on most public land to the BLM. It was signed into law that year by President Richard Nixon. There are other herds that live on reservations and land managed by the forest service, for example the Big Summit Herd in the Ochoco National Forest.

Then the question came: How would the BLM manage the horses? One answer came from Harney County during an extreme drought in the 1970s, says Pauline Braymen, a third generation rancher near Burns and former editor of the *Burns Times-Herald* as well as a correspondent for *The Oregonian*.

"It was the worst drought of my life," recalls Braymen, now in her 80s. "Malheur Lake was dry. You could just drive across it."

Braymen says the drought led the BLM to conduct one of its first "gathers" of wild horses. A gather is when the agency removes wild horses and burros to, ideally, protect the health of the animals and range land. In 1977, they rounded up the Palomino Butte herd into trailers, taking the horses away from the BLM land they lived on, called herd management areas (HMA).

"Horses in Harney County, especially the Beatys Butte Herd, would have perished if they hadn't been gathered," Braymen says, who loves horses, but doesn't ride them.

For many years, horse gathers were selective. The BLM put back horses with certain markings that were representative of the herd. With the South Steens, it's pinto, a horse with patches of white and another color.

"They selected the horses that they thought were the best horses, and the colors and the markings and all," Braymen says. The famous Kiger mustangs — which are descended from Spanish horses — were rounded up at Beatys Butte, southwest of Steens Mountain, and were placed near the northern part of the mountain in and near Kiger Gorge. This geographic isolation keeps the Kiger DNA local.

Debate persists about whether horses are wild or feral. The BLM says the horses are feral, because they are non-native to North America, and the first horses introduced were domesticated animals brought by Spanish Conquistadors in the 1500s.

Horses evolved in North America before disappearing from the fossil record, and advocates point to research suggesting Indigenous peoples had horses before Spaniards arrived in America.

Joan Suther, a former BLM field manager and a biologist in Burns, says that over the centuries, ranchers left their horses on public lands when they couldn't take care of them.

"If you do genetic testing, there is a whole lot of mixing going on," Suther says, adding that the South Steens herd is not descended from Spanish mustangs.

"Once they are born wild, they *are* wild."

A gravel road wraps around the corrals, an auto tour for both interested adopters and other tourists. Some pens hold several dozen mustangs. Their colorings are all unique — pinto, black, chestnut, bay and dun. When we arrive early in the morning, the horses munch on freshly delivered hay, on which the Oregon BLM spends \$1 million — half its horse budget — each year.

Many activists think the BLM prioritizes beef ranchers' demands for space to graze cattle. Livestock don't live

This morning at the BLM site, an adopter arrives to pick up a horse. When the mare is loaded in the trailer, she thunders back and forth, frantic and confused. The trailer shakes, and the adopter assures the horse she is on her way to a better life.

"I ended up getting her and was completely unprepared





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to take on a wild horse,” Brooks admits. She adds that she had her daughter and a trainer help gentle the horse. Living outside Eugene city limits with an average sized backyard, Brooks says she kept both Luna and her filly Aspen for a while in her backyard. Adopted horses need a small space to stay in initially while they acclimate, so they don’t jump out and are easier to catch. Brooks set up a makeshift pen for Aspen.

The neighbors didn’t mind, she says. “The horses ripped up the yard, though.”

For Brooks, training Aspen wasn’t easy. “She’s smart,” Brooks says. “Training her was different because it had to make sense to her. She didn’t have any domestic blood in her.” Brooks competed with her mustang in hunter-jumper competitions for many years. Brooks adds that she would not recommend adopting a wild horse if a person doesn’t really know what they are doing, and also suggests asking a professional to help.

Brooks says her daughter, Casey Wright, dreamed of breeding Aspen. So Wright and their trainer worked together to find the right stallion.

And when Wright was tragically murdered by an abusive ex-boyfriend at age 26, Brooks carried out her desire to breed their Kiger mustang.

“I carried it through,” Brooks says. “And I’m sure Casey is looking down and has been a part of the whole thing.”

Through both hardship and brighter times, Aspen, now 14, remains a constant and loyal friend in Brooks’ life. At almost 70, Brooks says she stopped competing during the pandemic. She runs a pet grooming business from her house, but she still rides Aspen multiple times a week.

“She’s my heart horse. We are very attached to each other. For a horse to come out of the wild and gain that trust and acceptance in this radical, different life is amazing. It’s an honor to be trusted.”

Not every horse that gets adopted has a happy ending. Adopted horses can also end up in kill pens. After one year an adopter can put the horse up for auction where anyone can bid, providing an opportunity for buyers who sell the horse to a kill pen.

Skydog Ranch takes on mustangs slated for slaughter. Staples says most of the 165 mustangs at the ranch were taken from kill pens.

“Taking horses out of kill pens is a small part of what we do. Promoting the SAFE [Safeguard American Food

Exports] Act that would stop the transport and slaughter of horses is another part,” Staples says. Skydog also takes horses that were relinquished due to their inability to be trained.

The mustangs live out their days on the ranch’s 9,000 acres. They can’t take all horses, but they do their best, Staples says, adding the BLM adoption incentive program increased numbers of mustangs in kill pens.

“I realized a long time ago we can’t save them all,” she says. “As a wild horse lover, we’ve saved over 200, but it’s never enough.”



THE FUTURE OF WILD HORSES

The best way to protect and manage these creatures is unclear. Some say they should be entirely left alone, while some locals believe that the horses’ ability to survive in the wild will destroy the land. The only certainty seems to be that no one will ever agree.

“I think there will continue to be a struggle,” Suther says. “I don’t think there will be a resolution to it and I think that’s true of all public land issues. A few people can live in the middle, but that’s not good enough for more vocal folks.”

If the BLM’s goal is to manage herd numbers, there are several options. It could geld stallions, but this is controversial because it changes the herd dynamic. Mares can

be spayed, but it requires an invasive surgery that could lead to infection. Neutering horses also lessens the genetic diversity of a herd.

The least controversial method of birth control is administering a contraceptive vaccine to mares that lasts for one year. This is what the BLM currently does.

Spaziani says diligent vaccine contraception of mares is proven to work and is the least invasive, costly and deadly approach.

“I think that will really work and save a lot of taxpayer money instead of these massive gathers and running all these horses at the same time,” she says.

She thinks there is a middle ground in protecting horses overall.

“From what I have observed with all the groups — BLM, ranchers, advocates and the horses themselves — the truth is found in the middle.”

In April 2021, a coalition of more than 70 advocacy organizations signed and sent a letter to Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, who was recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate. The letter calls for the government to assess the impact of cattle on public land, and for better management of horses.

Beckstead says wild horses need to be prioritized because they are important, weaving their way into all aspects of American culture: literature, films, sports mascots.

“We want them protected and to live wild and free because we as a people value freedom,” Beckstead says.

Near the end of our trip to eastern Oregon, we again drive Steens Mountain Loop Road between rain showers to see if any horses are wandering nearby. Shuffling through the patches of scraggly sagebrush, I spot a group far up on a hillside.

Observing the mustangs in the distance, I miss, at first, the mares standing to my right, 20 feet away. One is black, and the other a dark brown pinto. They graze between two juniper trees. Then, the pinto horse raises her head and her dark eyes meet mine for several seconds.

She returns to grazing, and I creep away to give them space. Breathless, I can’t help but smile. The alluring image of a mustang looking me in the eye is etched into my mind as I amble through the dusty, rocky terrain back to the car and as we drive out of the desert, over the Cascade peaks and back into the Willamette Valley. ■



LOVE IN THE WILD

The two wild horses pictured on *Eugene Weekly*’s cover have names and a romantic history.

Sonya Spaziani, known to many as “Mustang Meg,” often travels to the South Steens herd to photograph and document its wild mustangs. She names the horses and calls the chestnut colored stallion, on the right in the photo, Solomon, and his newly acquired mare, the pinto, Mariposa.

Solomon took Mariposa from a younger, more inexperienced stallion named Eros, as Spaziani recalls seeing Mariposa and Eros together in early June. Mariposa is the granddaughter of a horse named Renegade, who lived at Skydog Ranch rescue and tragically died in an accident on May 7.

Solomon was a band stallion for years, meaning he led his own group of mustangs. But he lost his band to another stallion, Sioux, after reinjuring his hind leg. Spaziani says she has seen him with this injury since 2014, but a friend said she had seen it a year earlier.

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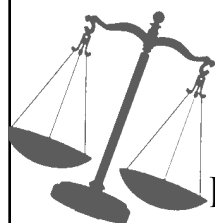
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what's happening

Paleo nerds, it's time to do some drawing and learn all about the spiked-toothed salmon that swam the Pacific Northwest from the Miocene to Pliocene periods 13 to 4 million years ago. That stern-looking animal — known to paleontologists as *Oncorhynchus (Smilodonichthys) rastrosus* — measured up to seven feet long and had killer fangs. The Museum of Natural and Cultural History at the University of Oregon hosts **Drawing from the Deep: A PaleoArt Workshop with Ray Troll**, an artist based in Ketchikan, Alaska, who is known for his scientifically accurate and humorous work. His best known piece is the “Spawn Till You Die” design, which appeared in the film *Superbad*, and he will share his techniques. Troll is joined by paleontologist and associate professor Edward Davis, the paleontological collection manager at MNCH.

Drawing from the Deep: A PaleoArt Workshop with Ray Troll is 6 pm Thursday, May 20, hosted on Zoom by the Museum of Natural and Cultural History at the University of Oregon. Preregistration is required, and the Zoom link is at MNCH.UOregon.org. \$5 for nonmembers, FREE for members. — *Dan Buckwalter*

GENERAL

LISTINGS ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

ART EXHIBITS

PhotoZone Gallery at Emerald Art Center (thru May 28).

Exhibition: The Vanishing West: Photographs by Rich Bergeman (thru June 12), White Lotus Gallery.

Duet Focus Exhibit - Barb Meyer + Christine Han-negan and Duet Window Exhibit - Anna Mallard + Ann Durley (thru June 30), River Gallery in Independence.

Everyday Inspiration: A Still Life Invitational Show (May 14-June 4), Maude Kerns Art Ctr.

Studio 7 reopening ft. 7 artist. More info at Studio 7 Facebook.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, JSMA.UOregon.edu.

FILM

Heritage Broadcasting Service (Eugene) has more than 125 titles to choose from, including recent additions *Agave Is Life, Etched In Bone* and *Karlu Karlu*. More info at HeritageTac.org.

GATHERINGS

May is Bike Month in Lane County. More info at We-BikeLane.org.

1,000 Hopes: Art Installation (thru May 31), outside of downtown Eugene Public Library.

Job Search Help by appointment at the downtown library. Call 541-686-7985 to schedule.

HEALTH

YMCA Choose-Your-Own Fitness Adventure: Oregon Edition (thru Sept. 13). More info at EugeneYMCA.org.

Zoom workout classes at CrossFit. Email Contact@CrossFitIntnsify.com for more info.

Workout classes at IAmForeverStrong.com.

Workout classes at Evolve Fitness Studios. More info at Facebook.

Workout & Yoga Classes at West Lane Fitness in Veneta. More info at WestLane-Fitness.com.

Yoga & Workout Classes at Yoga West Eugene. More info at YogaWestEugene.com

Yoga classes at EugeneYoga.us; WildLightYogaCenter.com; EugeneMudra.com; HotYogaEugeneBalanced.com; YogaEugene.com.

All levels of yoga (chair, advanced, yoga for health care workers and children) at Vista Wellness Ctr. Visit VistaPsych.com for more info.

KIDS/FAMILY

MEPAA Kidz Rock Online Music & Arts Festival (thru May), MEPPA.org.

StoryWalks in the Parks w/ Eugene Public Library (Sheldon Community Ctr. - *Thank You, Mr. Panda*). More info at 541-682-5450 or at Eugene-or.gov/library.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Art Course classes, Galleria at the Smith. More info at GalleriaAttheSmith.org.

The Gutenberg Dialogues: An In-depth look at Tyranny (every Wednesday thru May 19), 6:30-8pm. More info at Gutenberg.edu. \$32-63.

MUSIC

Oregon Mozart Players “All-Out Amadeus!” (thru May 31), \$5-25 sug. Donation; Oregon Mozart Players “Courage” w/ 2020 Young Soloist Competition Winners, (May 15-June 14). OregonMozart-Players.org. \$5.

RECREATION

Card games at High Mountain Poker. More info at 541-485-0090 and at HighMountainPoker.com.

THEATER

Marisol's Christmas and Watermelon Kisses (thru June 30), Theatre.UOregon.edu.

Teatro Milagro presents *Blast Off!* (thru May), Majestic Theatre, Majestic.org. FREE-\$10.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change Reprise (thru May 16), Majestic.org. \$5-20.

THURSDAY

MAY 13

ARTS/CRAFTS

Galleria at The Smith: Artist Gallery & Marketplace, noon-6pm, 786 E. 13th Ave.

HEALTH

NAMI Family Support Zoom Group @ NAMILane.org. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Bike Tune-Up Basics, noon, Bike Basics Facebook or Eugene Transportation YouTube.

Healing through Discussion Support Group (via Zoom), 9:30-11am, HealingAttention.org. \$15.

Live Virtual Sexuality Education, 3-4pm, PlannedParenthood.org. \$100.

Art Course: Bargue Drawing in the Academic Tradition (every Thursday thru May 20), 5:30-7:30pm, Galleria at the Smith. \$20-100.

MUSIC

KMR Jazz, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards.

Skip Jones & Steve Arriola, 6:30pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub.

ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7FM

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Com-cast channel 29

RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

SPECTATOR SPORTS

Eugene Emeralds vs. Hillsboro Hops, 7:35pm, PK Park. Tickets at MLB/EugeneEmeralds.

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave.

FRIDAY

MAY 14

ART/CRAFT

Galleria at The Smith: Artist Gallery & Marketplace, noon-6pm.

GATHERINGS

Craft Kit for Adults (macrame plant hanger), 10am, all Eugene Public Library locations.

City Club of Eugene: "Our Future Is in Good Hands: Scholars of the UO Class of 2021" noon, Eugene City Club Facebook. Airs again

at 7pm Monday, May 17 on KLCC, 89.7 FM

Food Not Bombs, cooking starts at noon (email EugeneFoodNotBombs@gmail.com for location), serves at 4pm at Park Blocks, E. 8th Ave. & Oak St. next to fountains.

Trans & Disability Group, 2-3pm, Transponder.Community.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Fundamentals of Sex Ed Training, 10am-3pm, PlannedParenthood.org. \$250.

"Sacred Traces: Composers, Relics and Art-Religion in Practice," noon, OHC. Uoregon.edu.

Urban Gardening & Community Building: Online Talk, noon. Register for link at EPLfoundation.org.

Art Course: Creating Form w/ Light and Shade, 3-5pm, Galleria at the Smith. \$20-100.

Expression Through Art (via Zoom), 4-5pm, HealingAttention.org. \$15.

MARKETS

The Emporium Veneta, a pop-up shop, noon-6pm, Elmira Grange, 88764 Sprague Rd.

MUSIC

Henry Cooper Trio, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards.

Darline Jackson's "My Band," 6:30pm, Mac's Nightclub & Restaurant.

Friday Night Folk Music Live Stream, 7pm. More info at Kathryn Rose Celtic Folk Festival Facebook page.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

Eugene Emeralds vs. Hillsboro Hops, 7:05pm, PK Park. Tickets at MLB/EugeneEmeralds.

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation (instruction provided), 7pm. Zoom only at BlueCliffZen.org.

SATURDAY

MAY 15

DANCE

90s vs 2000's Flashback Party, 4-8pm, Blairally. \$5.

FARMERS MARKETS

Saturday Farmers Market, 9am-3pm, 5th Ave. between High & Oak streets.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Fiction Fluency Fundamentals: Creativity and Emotionally Transformative Fiction, 1-5pm, WordCrafters.org. \$749-849.

Painting + Pizza with Wandering Palette, 1-4pm, Long Table Farm, 80242 Fir Butte Rd. \$150.

MARKETS

Eugene Saturday Market, 10am-4pm, Park Blocks, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

The Emporium Veneta, a pop-up shop, noon-6pm, Elmira Grange, 88764 Sprague Rd.

MUSIC

Geoffrey Mays, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards.

The Jeanne Gregg Band, 6:30pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub.

ON THE AIR

The Dr. Yeti Show, 10pm-midnight, KOCF, 92.5 FM or streamed at KOCF.org.

The Institute of Spectra Sound, 10pm-midnight, KEPW, 97.3 FM

SPECTATOR SPORTS

Eugene Emeralds vs. Hillsboro Hops, 7:05 pm, PK Park. Tickets at MLB/EugeneEmeralds.

THEATER

Majesticpiece Theatre presents *The Fate of Frankenstein*, 7:30pm, MajesticTheatre.org. FREE-\$10.

SUNDAY

MAY 16

GATHERINGS

Burrito Brigade, 11am-4pm. More info at BurritoBrigade.org.

350 Eugene Spring Meet-up!, 1pm, Monroe Park.

HEALTH

Occupy Medical, noon-4pm, 1717 Centennial Blvd, Spfd.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Fiction Fluency Fundamentals: Creativity and Emotionally Transformative Fiction, 9am-1 pm, WordCrafters.org. \$749-849.

MARKETS

Whiteaker Community Market, 11am-4pm, 4th & Blair at Scobert Park.

OUTDOORS

Chestnut seedlings for a better climate, noon-3 pm, Park Blocks, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

Climate Revolutions by Bike - 2021 Revival Ride, 2-4:30pm, Monroe Park.

RECREATION

Brewers Guild Bingo, 3-6pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

SPECTATOR SPORTS

Eugene Emeralds vs. Hillsboro Hops, 5:05pm, PK Park. Tickets at MLB/EugeneEmeralds.

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 4:30pm, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave.

Eugene Insight Meditation via Zoom, 6:30pm, Eugene-Insight.com.

MONDAY

MAY 17

KIDS/FAMILY

Craft Kit for Kids, 10am, all Eugene Public Library locations.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

rEV Up Workshop-Learn the basics of owning an electric vehicle, new or used, 7-8:30pm, eea-1967. ClubExpress.com.

LITERARY ARTS

Rainbow Reads, 6-8pm, WordCrafters.org.

ON THE AIR

"Swervin' In My Lane," 4-6pm, KOCF, 92.7 FM

OUTDOORS

Scenic Spring Woodland Walk, 4-6pm, LTWC Partner Site. RSVP at WeWetlands.org.

TUESDAY

MAY 18

KIDS/FAMILY

Family Storytime Online, 11am, Eugene Public Library Facebook.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Gentle Restorative Yoga w/ Robert, 10am, HealingAttention.org. \$15.

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

Figure Drawing sessions, 6-9pm, The Church, 3rd & Monroe.

"Rethinking Streets" w/ Dr. Marc Schlossberg, 7-8:30pm, SustainableCorvallis.org.

LITERARY ARTS

TransPonder Book Club, 5-6pm, Transponder.Community.

Windfall Reading: Susan Moore & Judith Montgomery, 6pm, bit.ly/Windfall/May2021.

MUSIC

Karaoke w/ Caught in the act Entertainment, 5pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

Rooster's Blues Jam, 6:30pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub.

WEDNESDAY

MAY 19

LECTURES/CLASSES

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

Nia: Moving to Heal, 3-4pm, HealingAttention.org. \$15.

Gender Diverse Yoga, 5:30-6:30pm, Transponder.Community.

MUSIC

Live music - Acoustic set, 5pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

Jazz & Variety, 6:30pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub.

ON THE AIR

"Come Together Oregon," 6pm, KEPW, 97.3 FM

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Center, 352 W. 12th Ave.

THURSDAY

MAY 20

ARTS/CRAFTS

Galleria at The Smith: Artist Gallery & Marketplace, noon-6pm, 786 E. 13th Ave.

FILM

Springfilm: *House on Haunted Hill*, live stream & discussion, 6:30pm. Zoom link at Springfield-or.libcal.com.

HEALTH

NAMI Family Support Zoom Group @ NAMILane.org. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Healing through Discussion Support Group (via Zoom), 9:30-11am, HealingAttention.org. \$15.

Natalie Ball: Power Objects, 4pm, Calendar.UOregon.edu.

Art Course: Bargue Drawing in the Academic Tradition, 5:30-7:30pm, Galleria at the Smith. \$20-100.

Drawing from the Deep: A PaleoArt Workshop w/ Ray Troll, 6-8pm, MNCH. UOregon.edu. \$5, FREE for members.

MUSIC

The Porch Band, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards.

Skip Jones & Steve Arriola, 6:30pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub.

ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7FM

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Com-cast channel 29

RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave.



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www.ElectJudyNewman.com

Garage Days Revisited

POPULAR WHITEAKER BAR-VENUE REOPENS, BUT THE TIMELINE FOR A RETURN OF LIVE MUSIC REMAINS UNCERTAIN

By Will Kennedy

Stepping into Sam Bond's Garage the other day was a little like seeing an old friend.

Closed since March 2020 on account of the pandemic — and, by closed, I mean closed-closed; nary a takeout container left the premises, nor curb-side order delivered — the beloved restaurant, bar and music venue in Eugene's Whiteaker Neighborhood recently reopened with limited capacity in accordance with all COVID-19 safety guidelines.

Most notable about the reopening, however, is that it unveils the most extensive remodel in the venue's 26-year history. But even though business has resumed at the fresh-look iconic bar-venue, which was selected in 2007 by *Esquire* magazine as one of the best in America, it's uncertain when live music will return.

Sam Bond's owners Bart Caridio, Todd Davis and Mark Jaeger own the building where Sam Bond's is located, so there was less pressure to pivot as the pandemic swept through Lane County last spring.

Instead, the owners offered staff some time off, assuring them their jobs were safe once the pandemic subsided. As of this year's reopening, all staff had returned to work.

Remodeling began last September and concluded shortly before Sam Bond's reopened. It involved a long list of desired changes and fixes, like a new roof and a refinished floor. Other changes include a completely rebuilt bar, topped with zinc and trimmed with cedar.

The remodel crew was "putting in the last screw until about 10 minutes before we opened," according to bar manager Andrew Lathrop, who assisted the owners with the work along with kitchen manager Diane Cooper, who's been with Sam Bond's since 1996. Lathrop won *Eugene Weekly's* Best of Eugene Best Bartender Category in 2019.

Lathrop goes on to say that Sam Bond's bar has expanded from eight to 12 taps, allowing for a CBD soda and a kombucha to stay permanently on the menu, and he intends to use his remodeled bar to expand the cocktail selection.

"I was able to get my dream bar," he says. "Now I have everything within two steps to my right and two steps to my left and we have two glass washers. I'm able to clean my equipment without taking it to the back."

According to Lathrop, these bar changes allow Sam Bond's to also handle more volume during high-capacity shows. There have also been several hygiene upgrades, he says, including no-touch automatic handwashing stations in the restrooms and behind the bar for employees.

For her part, kitchen manager Cooper says she's added a meatball sub to the menu, and it's been selling well.

Much of what made Sam Bond's "Sam Bond's" remains — including the sculpted longhorn antlers above the stage and the vintage automobile license plates. The place was, at one time, an actual garage, and the interior maintains a comfortable hangout décor with a mix of trucker chic and urban logger sensibilities.

Lathrop says nearly all of the people he's seen since reopening "notice the changes and love it. But a few people have said, 'It's too clean in here,'" he adds, to which he responds with a smile, "Give it time!"

Food, décor and drinks aside, questions about live music returning to the venue started rolling in shortly after the early March reopening, co-owner Jaeger says.

When does the music start? "Not quite yet," Jaeger says, other than perhaps acoustic stuff outdoors on the patio over the summer.

But as soon as it makes sense, a full music schedule will return to Sam Bond's, he says. The biggest hurdle is Lane County's safety status. With rising COVID numbers, Lane County has bounced between high and extreme risk levels, limiting indoor capacity and operating hours at bars and restaurants.

"There's going to be live music down here because that's our heart and soul," Jaeger says. "We're all dying for it."

As I was leaving Sam Bond's, I took a closer look at the changes, noticing a flyer for a show from a former Eugene singer-songwriter now based in Kansas City, Dan Jones. The show was canceled last spring because of the pandemic, but the poster still hung on the wall; a moment frozen in time, waiting to begin again. ■

Sam Bond's Garage is open with limited capacity and outdoor seating every day, 4 pm to 11 pm, at 407 Blair Boulevard.

Forever Young

OREGON MOZART PLAYERS
VIRTUAL CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS
YOUTHFUL AND DIVERSE
CONTRIBUTIONS TO
CLASSICAL MUSIC

By Will Kennedy

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart wrote music completely in his head, or so the story goes. Turns out, that's mostly the stuff of legend. What is known, though, is contemporary composer Quinn Mason — a 25-year-old African American musician from Dallas, Texas — does on occasion write music without the aid of an instrument.

Mason's piece "Princesa de la Luna" premieres in a virtual performance from the Oregon Mozart Players on May 15, part of *Courage*, a concert saluting youthful and diverse contributions to the classical music canon. It's only the second performance of the work from the much-lauded composer anywhere in the world.

When Oregon Mozart Players artistic director and conductor Kelly Kuo was planning the program, he sought a piece that not only fit the theme of young voices in clas-



KATIE LIU, MAGGIE CARTER,
KELLY KUO, IAN SONG
AND TEDDY ZHANG

sical music, but was also appropriate for the ensemble size and kind of instrumentation the players were allowed to assemble on account of the pandemic.

Mason was a perfect fit.

"It's more of a musical description or depiction of this princess," Kuo says. "There's a lot of suspension and floating; It's gorgeous, it's melodic, but at the same time, you have a lot of different textures."

Also on the program is Johann Baptist Vanhal's Concerto for Double Bass and Orchestra with Maggie

Carter on double bass; and Ian Song, performing "Winter" from Antonio Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" on violin. The two teenagers, both from Portland, were winners at last year's Oregon Mozart Players Young Soloist Competition.

Rounding out the show is the Divertimento in F Major, K. 138, from the original classical young gun himself, Mozart, with Daniel Cho guest conducting. ■

Courage from the Oregon Mozart Players premieres online 7:30 pm Saturday, May 15; \$5 minimum donation. For more information about how to watch go to OregonMozartPlayers.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

Announcements

AL-ANON: hope and help for families and friends of problem drinkers; virtual and in-person meetings available now (541) 265-4365 www.alanonlaneor.us

At My Eugene Apt. I was Told, April 21, 2021, that: "We are **NOT REQUIRED** to TeLL you, when WE **SPRAY ROUND UP**!" RePeated Back & Forth; with a Very Angry Assertive Voice, sort of Like a Get down, or I wiLL Shoot Type of Voice!!!! Justin.James. Martyr@gmail.com

EUGENE SEX ADDICTS ANONYMOUS Helpline Recording (541-342-5582). For meetings & information: www.eugene-saa.org

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EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted

SOCIAL SERVICES - ADMINISTRATIVE AIDE AT LCOG (SPANISH BILINGUAL PREFERRED) Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) seeks an Administrative Aide for its Senior & Disability Services (S&DS) Division. Provides administrative support to various programs. Greets and assists the public, staff, and others by phone or in person, providing information of a general nature as authorized. Spanish bilingual preferred. Full time, with full benefits package. This position is expected to start on June 28, 2021. Full job description and required application are available online at www.lcog.org or by calling LCOG at (541) 682-4283. DEADLINE: May 18, 2021 at 4 p.m. EOE/AA

SOCIAL SERVICES - CASE MANAGER AT LCOG Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) seeks a Case Manager for the Senior & Disability Services (S&DS) Division. This position manages a caseload comprised of adults with disabilities 18-64 years of age and/or senior citizens. The caseload includes clients newly admitted to service, as well as clients who have been receiving services from S&DS for a period of time (i.e., on-going clients). Full time, with full benefits package. This position is expected to start on June 28, 2021. Full job description and required application are available online at www.lcog.org or by calling LCOG at (541) 682-4283. DEADLINE: May 18, 2021 at 4 p.m. EOE/AA

SOCIAL SERVICES - CONTRACTS MANAGER AT LCOG Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) seeks a Contracts Manager for its Senior & Disability Services (S&DS) Division. This position will support and develop Older Americans Act (OAA) programs, Oregon Project Independence (OPI), and other Senior & Disability Services community programs. This includes development and monitoring of related contract agreements and requests for proposals, new program and service implementation, and supervision of program staff as assigned. Full time, with full benefits package. This position is

expected to start on June 28, 2021. Full job description and required application are available online at www.lcog.org or by calling LCOG at (541) 682-4283. DEADLINE: May 18, 2021 at 4 p.m. EOE/AA

SOCIAL SERVICES - FLORENCE SATELLITE OFFICE ASSISTANT AT LCOG Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) seeks an Administrative Assistant for the Senior & Disability Services (S&DS) Division satellite office in Florence, Oregon. This position primarily provides administrative support to Senior & Disability Services (S&DS) staff, clients, partners, and other stakeholders connected to S&DS satellite offices and is usually the first point of contact for applicants and recipients of agency services. This position also works

as part of an integrated team whose goal is to provide the highest level of support possible and providing excellent customer services to their internal and external customers. Full time, with full benefits package. This position is expected to start on June 28, 2021. Full job description and required application are available online at www.lcog.org or by calling LCOG at (541) 682-4283. DEADLINE: May 18, 2021 at 4 p.m. EOE/AA

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Recycling

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AUTOS

Cars

CASH FOR JUNK VEHICLES. Farm & metal, etc. No title-Not running. Pay \$\$\$ Cash. 541-517-6528

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR DOUGLAS COUNTY. In the Matter of the Estate of Tamara Leigh King, Deceased. Case No. 21PB03328 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above-titled estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the personal representative, care of the Wasley Law Office, P.C. 142 West 8th Avenue Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, Philip Wasley. Dated and first published April 29, 2021. Personal Representative: /s/ Kelly Kerns

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY In the Matter of the Estate of MARGARET SUSAN THOMPSON, Deceased. Case No. 21PB03473 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. Notice is hereby given that Marc D. Perrin has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of said estate. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the attorney for the personal representative at: Marc D. Perrin, Attorney at Law, 777 High Street, Suite 110, Eugene, OR 97401 or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED and first published: 05/13/21. Marc D. Perrin, Personal Representative, 777

SUDOKU

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Place numbers 1-9 so that each row, column and 3x3 square has each number only once.

WIGGLY TAILS DOG RESCUE

Helping abandoned and surrendered dogs find their forever homes



SADIE Shepherd blend, 70 lbs., 10 months old. Sadie is a special girl who has developed some anxious behaviors and anxiety around the small children in her home. She has been doted on and loved her whole life, and even been in doggie training since she was 12 weeks old. Needless to say, the anxiety is taking over Sadie's quality of life. Sadie is mellow and sweet without little kiddos in the home. She's loving, well-mannered, and everything her training and positive upbringing has been. However, something in her is not meshing with the littles. Their quick movements, normal little kid sounds, and activities are unsettling to her. No amount of training received or added has given Sadie what she would need to be comfortable and calm. Sadie's overall quality of mental health life is not where it should be, and our goal is to help find the best possible placement for her needs.

www.facebook.com/WigglyTailsDogRescue



PET OF THE WEEK!

Everybody deserves a good home
 541-689-1503
www.green-hill.org
 88530 Green Hill Rd



Meet **Clover and Rowan**, 26-day old baby guinea pigs! These best friends are very friendly, social and curious. They love each other very much and must be adopted together. They enjoy sitting on laps and having all the attention!

They love snacking on fresh fruit and veggies and will "wheel" when they are excited. A staff member said, "These two are the absolute cutest! They are very outgoing and clearly very bonded. Their family will be lucky to watch them grow up and learn their personalities." Clover and Rowan are male guinea pigs with red and white fur and blue eyes. They are Crested guinea pigs, so their fur is short and grows in one direction except for the crest on their head. They weigh a little over 200 grams but have more growing to do! This adorable duo must be adopted to an inside home and would thrive with older children. These handsome boys will make a family very happy!

Open 7 days a week 11am-6pm

Jonesin' Crossword

BY MATT JONES
 ©2021 JONESIN' CROSSWORDS (EDITOR@JONESINCROSSWORDS.COM)

Across

1 Garden fixture
 8 It's not the R in "MMR", but another name for measles
 15 Before
 16 Maroons
 17 Misheard phrase such as "nerve-wrecking"
 18 Thought that one could
 19 Complete beginner?
 20 Martial arts-based Lego set that launched a cartoon and subsequent movie
 22 Req. for a restaurant to serve alcohol
 23 Eric who said "I believe in the separation of church and planet"
 25 Spread for some bougie brewpubs
 26 Dal ____ (Rajasthani dish with wheat bread and ghee)
 27 "Barbarella" actress
 29 Heart diagnostic, for

short
 30 Lammermoor bride of opera
 31 Virtuoso guitarist Malmsteen
 33 Use your break time, in a way
 35 In the meantime, in Latin
 37 How "Waiting for Godot" was originally presented
 40 Jays' and Yanks' div.
 44 Gotta-haves
 45 '50s Dem. presidential candidate
 47 Chilean pianist Claudio
 48 E. ____ (rod-shaped bacteria)
 49 Award given to "Nomadland" for Best Film in April 2021
 51 Line parts (abbr.)
 52 Dijon's here
 53 Santa Monica area in early skateboard documentaries

55 Biden, to GIs
 56 Beauty chain since 1970
 58 Model who's the daughter of Wayne Gretzky
 60 About .035 ounces
 61 Connecticut-born cartoonist known for big stripey cats
 62 Say again
 63 Like old parchment

Down

1 Spell out
 2 Rooted for
 3 Malaysian-born comedian who gained fame in 2020 for his online cooking reviewer persona Uncle Roger
 4 Happy coworker?
 5 About 90% of all refined metal
 6 Places in the heart
 7 Johnson who invented the

"Free Game!"

--it's themeless time again.

Super Soaker
 8 Harmful bloom makeup
 9 Long sushi order?
 10 Ballpoint pen, in the U.K.
 11 "Taiwan" suffix
 12 Arsenic partner, in film
 13 Wright who played Shuri in "Black Panther"
 14 Withdrawn, perhaps
 21 Big no-no for stand-up comedians
 24 King nicknamed "Longshanks"
 26 Sucky situations
 28 Professional staff
 30 Ali who had a perfect record in the ring
 32 One, in Bonn
 34 La la leader?
 36 March Madness event
 37 Canine neighbor
 38 Division of the Tertiary period
 39 Former Mexican president Calderón and baseball manager Alou, for two
 41 Puerto Rico observatory site where a notable telescope collapsed in 2020
 42 City north of Flint
 43 Chianti's region
 46 Visit
 49 He was in a "Subsequent Moviefilm"
 50 Caffeinated
 53 ____ and the Lost City of Gold" (2019 film)
 54 Lacking value
 57 Companion of wt.
 59 Rapper ____ Dicky

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S

I	R	S	L	I	D	T	A	B	B	E	D				
C	A	T	A	L	A	H	O	N	O	R	E	E			
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C	I	N	C	I	N	N	A	T	I	Z	O				
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S	I	L	I	C	A	C	Z	A	R		R	E	M		
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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): In one of her poems, Emily Dickinson tells us, “The pedigree of honey / Does not concern the bee; / A clover, any time, to him / Is aristocracy.” I suggest you be like Dickinson’s bee in the coming weeks, my dear Aries. Take pleasure and power where they are offered. Be receptive to just about any resource that satisfies your raw need. Consider the possibility that substitutes and stand-ins may be just as good as the supposed original. OK? Don’t be too fussy about how pure or prestigious anything is.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): A fan once asked composer Johann Sebastian Bach about his creative process. He was so prolific! How did he dream up such a constant flow of new music? Bach told his admirer that the tunes came to him unbidden. When he woke up each morning, they were already announcing themselves in his head. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, Taurus, a comparable phenomenon may very well visit you in the coming weeks — not in the form of music, but as intuitions and insights about your life and your future. Your main job is to be receptive to them, and make sure you remember them.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): “I love unmade beds,” writes Gemini poet Shane Koyczan. “I love when people are drunk and crying and cannot be anything but honest. I love the look in people’s eyes when they realize they’re in love. I love the way people look when they first wake up and they’ve forgotten their surroundings. I love when people close their eyes and drift to somewhere in the clouds.” In the coming days, Gemini, I encourage you to specialize in moments like those: when you and the people you’re interested in are candid, unguarded, raw, vulnerable and primed to go deeper. In my opinion, your soul needs the surprising healing that will come from these experiences.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Trailblazing psychologist C. G. Jung said his loneliness wasn’t about a lack of people around him. Rather, it came from the fact that he knew things that most people didn’t know and didn’t want to know. He had no possibility of communicating many of the interesting truths that were important to him! But I’m guessing that won’t be much of a problem for you in the coming months. According to my astrological analysis, you’re more likely to be well-listened to and understood than you have been in quite some time. For best results, ASK to be listened to and understood. And think about how you might express yourself in ways that are likely to be interesting and useful to others.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): The French government regularly gives the Legion of Honor award to people deemed to have provided exceptional service to the world. Most recipients are deserving, but a few have been decidedly unworthy. In the latter category are Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega and Syrian dictator Bashar al-Assad, as well as drug-cheating athlete Lance Armstrong, sexual predator Harvey Weinstein and Nazi collaborator Marshal Pétain. I bring this to your attention, Leo, because the coming weeks will be a favorable time to reward people who have helped and supported you. But I also suggest that you pointedly exclude those who have too many negatives mixed in with their positives.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): In 2010, an American engineer named Edward Pimentel went to Moscow to compete in the World Karaoke Championship. He won by singing Usher’s “DJ Got Us Falling in Love.” His award: one million dumplings, enough to last him 27 years. I have a good feeling about the possibility of you, too, collecting a new prize or perk or privilege sometime soon. I just hope it’s a healthier boon than dumplings. For best results, take some time now to clearly define the nature of the prize or perk or privilege that you really want — and that will be truly useful.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): I will love it if sometime soon you find or create an opportunity to speak words similar to what novelist D. H. Lawrence once wrote to a lover: “You seem to have knit all things in a piece for me. Things are not separate; they are all in a symphony.” In other words, Libra, I’ll be ecstatic if you experience being in such synergistic communion with an empathic ally that the two of you weave a vision of life that’s vaster and richer than either one of you could summon by yourself. The astrological omens suggest this possibility is now more likely than usual.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): Sometimes people don’t like the provocative posts I publish on Facebook. They leave comments like, “You stupid idiot!” or “I hope you commit suicide!” and far worse. When I delete their messages, they become even more enraged, accusing me of censorship. “So you don’t believe in free speech, you jerk?” they complain. I don’t try to reason with them. They don’t deserve any of my time or energy. But if I did communicate with them, I might say, “My Facebook page is my sanctuary, where I welcome cordial conversation. If you came into my house and called me an idiot, would it be ‘censorship’ if I told you to leave?” I hope these thoughts inspire you to clarify and refine your own personal boundaries, Scorpio. It’s a good time to get precise and definite about what’s acceptable and unacceptable from the people with whom you engage.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Have you ever kissed a monster in your nightly dreams? Have you won a chess match with a demon or signed a beneficial contract with a ghost or received a useful blessing from a pest? I highly recommend activities like those in the coming weeks — both while you’re asleep and awake. Now is a good time to at least make peace with challenging influences and at best come into a new relationship with them that serves you better. I dare you to ask for a gift from an apparent adversary.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): What does it mean to “follow the path with heart”? I invite you to meditate on that question. Here are my ideas. To follow the path with heart means choosing a destiny that appeals to your feelings as well as to your ambitions and ideas and habits. To follow a path with heart means living a life that fosters your capacity to give and receive love. To follow the path with heart means honoring your deepest intuitions rather than the expectations other people have about you. To follow the path with heart means never comparing your progress with that of anyone else’s, but rather simply focusing on being faithful to your soul’s code.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): “It’s a good thing when people are different from your images of them,” wrote Aquarian author Boris Pasternak. “It shows they are not merely a type. If you can’t place them in a category, it means that at least a part of them is what a human being ought to be. They have risen above themselves, they have a grain of immortality.” I love that perspective! I’m offering it to you because right now is a favorable time to show that you are indeed different from the images people have of you; that you transcend all stereotyping; that you are uncategorizable.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): You have personal possession of the universe’s most monumental creation: consciousness. This mercurial flash and dazzle whirling around inside you is outlandishly spectacular. You can think thoughts any time you want to — soaring, luminescent, flamboyant thoughts or shriveled, rusty, burrowing thoughts; thoughts that can invent or destroy, corrupt or redeem, bless or curse. There’s more. You can revel and wallow in great oceans of emotion. Whether they are poignant or intoxicating or somewhere in between, you relish the fact that you can harbor so much intensity. You cherish the privilege of commanding such extravagant life force. I bring these thoughts to your attention because the time is right for a holiday I call Celebrate Your Greatest Gifts.

Homework. Send testimony or proof of how you’ve seized control of your own life. Truthrooster@gmail.com

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classifieds

High Street, Suite 110, Eugene, OR 97401, 541-345-0003. Marc D. Perrin OSB #823663, Attorney for Personal Representative, 777 High Street, Suite 110, Eugene, OR 97401, 541-345-0003.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY PROBATE DEPARTMENT. In the Matter of the Estate of DONNA BYERLY BUFFINGTON, Decedent. Case No. 21PB03697 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Herbert Gazeley has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at the law office of Bassinger Hoyt LLC, Attn: Thomas H. Hoyt, 1200 Executive Parkway, Suite 320, Eugene, Oregon 97401 within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorneys for the personal representative, Thomas H. Hoyt, Bassinger Hoyt LLC, 1200 Executive Parkway, Suite 320, Eugene, Oregon 97401, Telephone: 05/06/21. Personal Representative: Herbert Gazeley, PO Box 681, Waterville, Oregon 97489. Telephone: 206-661-3134. Attorney for Personal Representative: Thomas H. Hoyt, OSB #660662, Bassinger Hoyt LLC, 1200 Executive Parkway, Suite 320, Eugene, Oregon 97401, Telephone: 541-687-8700, Fax: 541-687-8701, thoyt@bassingerhoyt.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY. Probate Department Case No. 20PB05826, NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS: In the matter of the Estate of Janice Elaine Cassady, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maureen Wieser has been appointed as personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the personal representative in care of Bouneff, Chally & Koh, 2722 NE 33rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice as stated below or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the

personal representative or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published on May 6, 2021. Maureen Wieser, Personal Representative. Tabitha L. Koh, OSB #096133, Bouneff, Chally & Koh, Attorney for Personal Representative, 2722 NE 33rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97212, Tel (503) 238-9720; Fax (503)239-3989.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY. Case No. 21PB02481 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS in the matter of the Estate of Marilyn Irene Keck, Deceased. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ronald L. Sperry III has qualified and been appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present them, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative, Ronald L. Sperry III, c/o DC Law, McKinney & Sperry, PC, P.O. Box 1265, Roseburg, OR 97470, or the claims may be barred. Dated and first published this 6th day of May, 2021. Personal Representative: Ronald L. Sperry III, OSB #091525, DC Law, McKinney & Sperry PC, PO Box 1265, Roseburg, OR 97470, Telephone: 541-673-4451 Fax: 541-673-1202

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY. Probate Department. In the Matter of the Estate of: IAN MAXWELL CORBY, Deceased. Case No. 21PB03175 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS GIVEN that Jackie Fosback has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative c/o Robert Cole Tozer, Attorney at Law, 975 Oak St., Suite 615, Eugene, OR 97401, (541)345-0795, within four months of the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the personal representative’s attorney, Robert Cole Tozer. DATED and first published May 6, 2021. Personal Representative /s/ Jackie Fosback

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE, PROBATE DEPARTMENT. In the Matter of the Estate of: Betty Jo Wren, Deceased. Case No.: 21PB02322 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. Notice: The Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Lane, has appointed the undersigned as Personal Representative of the Estate of BETTY JO WREN, Deceased. All persons having claims against said Estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers to the Personal Representative, c/o Lori K. Murphy, Lynch Conger LLP, 1000 SW Disk Drive, Bend, OR 97702, within four months from the date of first publication of this notice as stated below, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: May 6, 2021. PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Michael Wren, PO Box 1465, Tecate, CA 91980. ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Lori K. Murphy, OSB #990700, Lynch Conger LLP, 1000 SW Disk Drive, Bend, OR 97702, Email: lmurphy@lynchconger.com, Tel: (541) 383-5857. Published: May 6, May 13, May 20, 2021

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE In the Matter of the Estate of JOHN PIERRE JANSENS, Deceased. No. 21PB03667 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative at 19108 Marble Glen Lane, Plufgevville, TX 78660, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, Lawrence Deckman, at 2406 Lawrence Street, Eugene, Oregon 97405 (541)731-1227 Dated and first published May 13, 2021. /s/ Alanna Judd, Personal Representative.

Hannah Clotere
Real Estate Broker • 541-543-9345
HannahSellsHomes.com



HEAR YE,
HEAR YE!!

LEGAL NOTICES

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NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS ESTATE OF DANIEL GENE BOYKIN LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 21PB03440 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the undersigned Personal Representative Shonda Sue Fields, c/o Janice L. Mackey, Hutchinson Cox, PO Box 10886, Eugene, Oregon 97440. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice to the Personal Representative at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative, named above. Dated and first published 05/06/21.

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS ESTATE OF MARGARET CLAUDINE MILLS JOHNSON LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 21PB03834. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the undersigned Personal Representative Kathryn Bowman, c/o Janice L. Mackey, Hutchinson Cox, PO Box 10886, Eugene, Oregon 97440. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice to the Personal Representative at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative, named above. Dated and first published 05/13/21

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Larry Don Jeffries, deceased, Lane County Probate No. 21PB03339. All per-

sons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative at 188 West B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: 04/29/21. /s/ Robert M. Marinos, Personal Representative. Alex E. Gavrilidis, Attorney for Personal Representative Leahy Cox, LLP, 188 W. B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541) 746-9621

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS: Probate administration proceedings in the Estate of Ann F. Towers, Deceased, are now pending in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, Case No. 21PB03784, and Frank J. Johnson has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the Personal Representative, c/o Gleaves Swearingen LLP, Attorneys at Law, 975 Oak Street, Suite 800, Eugene, OR 97401, within 4 months from the date of the first publication of this notice or such claims may be barred. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN to all persons whose rights may be affected by the above entitled proceedings that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published this 13th day of May, 2021.

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and have qualified as the Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of William Earl Wren, deceased, Lane County Probate No. 21PB03154. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Co-Personal Representatives at 188 West B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings

in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Co-Personal Representatives, or the attorney for the Co-Personal Representatives. Dated and first published: 05/13/21. /s/ Emily W. Gerot & Edna R. Wren, Co-Personal Representatives. Kay Hyde-Patton, Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives, Leahy Cox, LLP, 188 W. B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541)746-9621

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE - PROBATE DEPARTMENT. In the Matter of the Estate of: GARY VINCENT LAWRENCE, Deceased. Case No. 21PB02988 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned Personal Representative in care of Scott Howard, Kivel & Howard LLP, 1530 SW Taylor Street, Portland, OR 97205-1819, Tel: (503) 796-0909; Fax: (503) 802-4757; within four (4) months of the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published May 13, 2021. By: s/ Tammy Lawrence

I SAW YOU

DISCOVERED A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER on my bike outside New Frontier. But, where were U? Cold and dark transform to warmth and light. U R My Shining Star - No Other. Would like to Thank U in person. The EW Office has my info and maybe you can leave your info with them also? LOVE

NO VISION TO SEE WELL. I squandered a fabulous moment, uncertain and afraid. You, maybe not a ghost, but too real. Feeling I let us both down, yet truly heartened.

SAVAGE LOVE

Dramatis Personae
BY DAN SAVAGE



I'm someone who does gay porn for a living. How do people who do gay porn meet someone who doesn't just sexualize or fetishize them? I can't eat, sleep and breathe my work constantly, but the guys I meet want me to live out the "porn persona" version of myself all the time. How does someone who does porn know who you can be yourself with?

— Aiden Ward
@aidenxxxward

“Living with two identities is definitely a balancing act,” said Devin Franco, an award-winning gay porn performer. “Being in porn means juggling the ‘real world’ person I actually am — a person who has to navigate rent, healthcare, bills and a social life — and a porn star alter ego. And these days our porn alter egos don't just have to perform. We also have to do a lot of our own shooting and our own PR while maintaining our images. It's a lot. And reality always comes knocking no matter how much fun you're having. The bills always come due.”

Franco's first bit of advice is to remember that you are not your alter ego.

“It's a beautiful and sexy part of you that you have the opportunity to show to the world,” said Franco. “But it's not all of you. That will help you stay grounded.”

It also helps to remember that being “porn famous” doesn't mean everyone knows who you are.

“A lot of people you meet will have no idea who you are,” said Franco, “which means a lot of the time you'll get to choose when you want to introduce yourself as your porn alter ego or when you want to just be yourself. This makes it easier to create boundaries between your real life and your porn life. Knowing you get to decide when or even if you want to introduce yourself as your actual self or as that fantasy version of yourself — your alter ego — means you can control how a lot of people perceive you.”

So even if you get as porn famous as Franco is, Aiden, you'll still have lots of opportunities for people to get to know the real you — not the porn persona — before you tell them what you do for a living. As with so many things (being HIV+, being trans, being kinky, being polyam, etc.), when you tell a guy you do porn, Aiden, you're telling him one thing he needs to know about you — but his reaction will tell you everything you need to know about him. If he starts shaming you about what you do — or if he goes from seeing you as a person who is also an object to seeing you as just an object — that's really all you need to know: don't see him, unfollow him, block him.

“Now lots of the people who fetishize and sexualize you are your fans — they're your audience, they're the ones who pay your bills, and you have to recognize that and you do have to keep them interested,” said Franco, “but you don't have to give them all of your time and attention. Because at the end of the day, it's your work and you've got other shit to do. You will meet people both in and out of the industry who recognize that you are a real person, with a real life, and who will get to know the real you,” said Franco. “And you'll sometimes find that some of the people who fetishized you at first don't anymore once they get to know the real you.”

Franco shared your question with CagedJock, another high-profile porn star that Franco works with regularly, and CagedJock shared his strategy for finding guys he can be himself around: “I like to hang out with people who work in the same industry,” said CagedJock, “because they don't sexualize me. Devin and I have been friends since 2019. He's super sexy and I adore him. While other guys might only see him only as a fantasy figure, I don't. Because I know our work doesn't define us 24/7. We're friends.”

Follow Devin Franco on Twitter @devinfrancoxxx and CagedJock @cagedjock.

I'm a gay male in his thirties and during the pandemic I stayed with a straight male friend and his girlfriend. He'd periodically been flirty with me over the years — sending me nude photos and drunkenly telling me that he loved me. When his girlfriend was away visiting family we got drunk together. He bought all the alcohol, he mixed it, and he served it. During this time we had a series of drunken encounters. The first time he took out his cock and asked me if I wanted to play with it. There was some brief licking and he grabbed my hair and finished on my face. He hugged me and rubbed my back after. The next two times were less serious, but he took off his shirt and pants. On one of those occasions his girlfriend called and he put his clothes back on, took the call, then came back and took his clothes off again. All three times it happened he was fully engaged and communicating his wants and initiating things. His girlfriend eventually found out about one of the incidents. After a month of drama, he told her everything and they broke up. Shortly after he claimed that I took advantage of him and claimed he was too drunk to give consent! I am not sure what to make of this. First, he is the one that supplied the alcohol and made us both really strong drinks. He also drinks a lot regularly, so his tolerance is much higher than mine, but we drank the same amount and I was much drunker than he was. Third, he continued to hang out with me until his girlfriend found out.

I am deeply hurt. I've lost two friends — which I admit that I am partially to blame for. I knew they were together. But I don't know what to do about the accusation that I forced him to be sexual without his consent. I have played events over and over in my mind, and I don't understand how he could say this. He supplied the alcohol, he was an active participant, and when I asked if he really wanted to do this, he said yes. I am not sure if he is gaslighting me or if he honestly remembers things differently.

— Boy Lost And Hurt

At some point in our gay lives every gay man learns not to mess around with a friend's drunk straight-identified boyfriend. No matter how many dick pics they send us, no matter how much they claim to wanna, when it comes to shit — as it invariably does — the gay guy is gonna get the blame. It's a lesson most of us learn earlier in life (I was 16 when I learned it), BLAH, but it's a lesson most us learn after messing around with the drunk straight-identified boyfriend of a friend. We fuck around, we find out.

Anyway, your male former friend obviously wanted to mess around with another dude — he wasn't sending you dick pics by accident — and the drinks he made were as much about lowering his inhibitions and yours (about cheating with him) as they were giving him some plausible deniability (“Man, I was so drunk last night!”) if the worst should happen. And it did: you fucked around, she found out. But after you guys got caught — which almost everybody does — instead of taking responsibility or coming out as bi or bi-curious or at the very least heteroflexible, BLAH, your former friend weaponized the toxic stereotype of the predatory homosexual against you. It's understandable that you're upset. If it'll make you feel better — and it would certainly make me feel better — you could send screen grabs of the dick pics he sent you to him and his girlfriend. Because if anyone was making passes here, it was him. If anyone was taking advantage here, it was him.

You could send those screengrabs, but you shouldn't — as wrong as it was of him to weaponize anti-gay stereotype against you, BLAH, using his dick pics against him would also be wrong. And probably a crime under revenge porn statutes. But you have every right to push back against the accusation that you forced yourself on your former friend — and while you have the receipts and he knows it, BLAH, you shouldn't produce them. Maybe just knowing you have them will make you feel better.

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